

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 19, 22-26, 29-32, 39 and 54-62 without prejudice or disclaimer, and substitute the following claims for those currently pending:

1. (Previously presented) A framework for a construction enclosure system, comprising:
  - a) a plurality of brackets adapted to be rigidly and removably attached to a structure under construction; and
  - b) a plurality of rigid elongated frame members adapted to be fixedly retained by the brackets in a desired spatial relationship with an outer face of the structure, each frame member defining first and second substantially parallel channels extending respectively along first and second side regions thereof, each channel being adapted to slidably retain an edge portion of a sheet-like enclosure panel, wherein the edge portion has a greater thickness than a peripheral panel area extending therefrom; and
  - c) a plurality of reinforcement members adapted to be secured against respective frame members to increase the rigidity of such frame members;wherein at least one of the frame members comprises a pair of elongated bodies adapted to be retained in a mated configuration to cooperatively define the first and second channels such that a spacing distance between the mated elongated bodies is adjustable to provide a corresponding channel width, said bodies being adapted to be mated by one or more fasteners extending through each body such that the channel width can be adjusted by adjusting at least one of the fasteners.

2. (Original) The framework of claim 1 wherein the reinforcement members are adapted to retain the respective frame members to the brackets.

3. (Original) The framework of claim 1 wherein each of the reinforcement members comprises a rigid elongated body adapted to be secured against a substantial length of at least one of the frame members.

4. (Original) The framework of claim 1 wherein at least one of the reinforcement members has a "C"-shaped cross-section.

Claims 5-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously presented) The framework of claim 1 wherein each body comprises a rigid plate.

9. (Original) The framework of claim 8 wherein the channels are defined by bends in one or both of the plates.

10. (Previously presented) A construction enclosure system, comprising:

- a) a plurality of sheet-like enclosure panels each having a major surface and substantially parallel first and second edge portions, each edge portion having a greater thickness than a peripheral panel area extending therefrom;
- b) a framework, comprising:

- i) a plurality of brackets adapted to be rigidly and removably attached to a structure under construction;
  - ii) a plurality of rigid elongated frame members adapted to be fixedly retained by the brackets in a desired spatial relationship with an outer face of the structure, each frame member defining first and second substantially parallel channels extending respectively along first and second side regions thereof, each channel being adapted to slidably retain one of said panel edge portions;
  - iii) a plurality of reinforcement members adapted to be secured against respective frame members to increase the rigidity of such frame members;
- wherein at least one of the frame members comprises a pair of elongated bodies adapted to be retained in a mated configuration to cooperatively define the first and second channels such that a spacing distance between the mated elongated bodies is adjustable to provide a corresponding channel width, said bodies being adapted to be mated by one or more fasteners extending through each body such that the channel width can be adjusted by adjusting at least one of the fasteners.

- 11. (Original) The construction enclosure system of claim 10 wherein the reinforcement members are adapted to retain the respective frame members to the brackets.
- 12. (Original) The construction enclosure system of claim 10 wherein each of the reinforcement members comprises a rigid elongated body adapted to be secured against a substantial length of at least one of the frame members.

13. (Original) The construction enclosure system of claim 10 wherein at least one of the reinforcement members has a "C"-shaped cross-section.

Claims 14-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously presented) The construction enclosure system of claim 10 wherein each body comprises a rigid plate.

18. (Original) The construction enclosure system of claim 17 wherein the channels are defined by bends in one or both of the plates.

Claims 19-34. (Cancelled)

35. (Original) A method of at least partially enclosing a structure under construction, comprising:

- a) providing a construction enclosure system according to claim 10;
- b) rigidly and removably attaching the brackets to the structure;
- c) securing the reinforcement members against respective frame members to increase the rigidity of such frame members, thereby defining reinforced frame members;
- d) rigidly securing the reinforced frame members to the brackets such that the reinforced frame members are fixedly retained in a desired spatial relationship with an outer face of the structure; and

- e) positioning at least one of the enclosure panels between a pair of the reinforced frame members such that the first edge portion is slidably retained in one of the channels in a first reinforced frame member of the pair and the second edge portion is slidably retained in one of the channels in a second reinforced frame member of the pair.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Previously presented) The framework of claim 1 wherein a side edge of one of said elongated bodies when mated with the other of said elongated bodies defines a slot together with an adjacent side edge of the other of said elongated bodies, said adjacent side edges having a divergent configuration.

38. (Previously presented) The construction enclosure system of claim 10 wherein a side edge of one of said elongated bodies when mated with the other of said elongated bodies defines a slot together with an adjacent side edge of the other of said elongated bodies, said adjacent side edges having a divergent configuration.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously presented) A framework for a construction enclosure system, comprising:

- a) a plurality of brackets adapted to be rigidly and removably attached to a structure under construction; and
- b) a plurality of rigid elongated frame members adapted to be fixedly retained by the brackets in a desired spatial relationship with an outer face of the structure, at least one of the frame members comprising first and second elongated bodies and defining first and second substantially parallel channels and first and second slots

communicating respectively with the first and second channels, each such slotted channel being adapted to slidably retain an edge portion of a sheet-like enclosure panel, wherein the edge portion has a greater thickness than a peripheral panel area extending therefrom, wherein each said slot is defined between a side edge of the first body and an adjacent side edge of the second body, and wherein said adjacent first and second side edges have a divergent configuration; and

- c) a plurality of reinforcement members adapted to be secured against respective frame members to increase the rigidity of such frame members.

41. (Previously presented) The framework of claim 40 wherein the reinforcement members are adapted to retain the respective frame members to the brackets.

42. (Previously presented) The framework of claim 40 wherein each of the reinforcement members comprises a rigid elongated body adapted to be secured against a substantial length of at least one of the frame members.

43. (Previously presented) The framework of claim 40 wherein at least one of the reinforcement members has a "C"-shaped cross-section.

44. (Previously presented) The framework of claim 40 wherein each body comprises a rigid plate.

45. (Previously presented) The framework of claim 44 wherein the channels are defined by bends in one or both of the plates.

46. (Previously presented) The framework of claim 40 wherein said first and second elongated bodies are retained in a mated configuration to cooperatively define said first and second channels such that a spacing distance between said mated elongated bodies is adjustable to provide a corresponding channel width, said mated elongated bodies being mated by one or more fasteners extending through each body such that the channel width can be adjusted by adjusting at least one of the fasteners.

- 47: (Previously presented) A construction enclosure system, comprising:
- a) a plurality of sheet-like enclosure panels each having a major surface and substantially parallel first and second edge portions, each edge portion having a greater thickness than a peripheral panel area extending therefrom;
  - b) a framework, comprising:
    - i) a plurality of brackets adapted to be rigidly and removably attached to a structure under construction;
    - ii) a plurality of rigid elongated frame members adapted to be fixedly retained by the brackets in a desired spatial relationship with an outer face of the structure, at least one of the frame members comprising first and second elongated bodies and defining first and second substantially parallel channels and first and second slots communicating respectively with the first and second channels, each such slotted channel being adapted to slidably retain one of said panel edge portions, wherein each said slot is defined between a side edge of the first body and an adjacent

side edge of the second body, and wherein said adjacent first and second side edges have a divergent configuration; and

- iii) a plurality of reinforcement members adapted to be secured against respective frame members to increase the rigidity of such frame members.

48. (Previously presented) The construction enclosure system of claim 47 wherein the reinforcement members are adapted to retain the respective frame members to the brackets.

49. (Previously presented) The construction enclosure system of claim 47 wherein each of the reinforcement members comprises a rigid elongated body adapted to be secured against a substantial length of at least one of the frame members.

50. (Previously presented) The construction enclosure system of claim 47 wherein at least one of the reinforcement members has a "C"-shaped cross-section.

51. (Previously presented) The construction enclosure system of claim 47 wherein each body comprises a rigid plate.

52. (Previously presented) The construction enclosure system of claim 51 wherein the channels are defined by bends in one or both of the plates.

53. (Previously presented) The construction enclosure system of claim 47 wherein said first and second elongated bodies are retained in a mated configuration to cooperatively define said first and second channels such that a spacing distance between said mated elongated bodies



is adjustable to provide a corresponding channel width, said mated elongated bodies being mated by one or more fasteners extending through each body such that the channel width can be adjusted by adjusting at least one of the fasteners.

Claims 54-62. (Cancelled)

63. (Previously presented) A method of at least partially enclosing a structure under construction, comprising:

- a) providing a construction enclosure system according to claim 47;
- b) rigidly and removably attaching the brackets to the structure;
- c) securing the reinforcement members against respective frame members to increase the rigidity of such frame members, thereby defining reinforced frame members;
- d) rigidly securing the reinforced frame members to the brackets such that the reinforced frame members are fixedly retained in a desired spatial relationship with an outer face of the structure; and
- e) positioning at least one of the enclosure panels between a pair of the reinforced frame members such that the first edge portion is slidably retained in one of the channels in a first reinforced frame member of the pair and the second edge portion is slidably retained in one of the channels in a second reinforced frame member of the pair.